DEC 1 1 2000



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Hestenes et al.

Serial No.: 09/609,106

Filed: June, 30, 2000

Group No.: Examiner:

For: System for Encoding and Manipulating Models of Objects

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as FIRST CLASS MAIL in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on:

Date of mailing:

DEC 6 2000

Kelle Signature

PRELIMENARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please enter this amendment before examining the application.

OIDE/JOHS

In the Claims

1. A method for modeling an object composed of one or more components, comprising:

inputting data for each component of the object, the data including [Cartesian] coordinates expressed in Euclidean space [of] $\underline{\text{for}}$ a plurality of points \mathbf{x} of each component;

encoding each point \mathbf{x} as a <u>null</u> vector x in a [general] homogeneous space by $x = (\mathbf{x} + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{x}^2e + e_*)E = \mathbf{x}E - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{x}^2e + e_*$, where e and e_* are [basis] null vectors